# Developing a strategy for international alumni engagement

Presentation and workshop Campus Mundi Programme, Tempus Public Foundation Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Mrs Sam Davies Director of Philanthropy & Alumni Engagement



### What will we cover today

- Introductions
- Why is internationalisation important for higher education
- Link between internationalisation and alumni engagement
- Examples of best practise from the UK
- Challenges and opportunities
- How to approach developing a strategy
- Workshop



### What do you want to get out of today?

- Where to start?
- How to secure senior colleague involvement?
- What works well?
- Scaling up?
- How to make the case for resources?
- How to sustain?
- What else .....?



### A bit more about me



- Telephone fundraiser as a student
- Regular giving expert
- Establishing new operation from scratch
- Where's the database?
- Where's the strategy?
- Achievements
- Challenges and opportunities



### Internationalisation

- Now mentioned in mission statements for most HE organisations
- More than just delivering a range of activities
- Creates a culture
- Not just about increased international recruitment
- Global graduate competence





### Internationalisation + alumni engagement = ????

- Effective alumni engagement aligns institutional priorities with the interests, needs and giving potential of alumni
- Research shows correlation between investment in alumni engagement and alumni making donations
- The benefits of alumni engagement go far beyond fundraising
- Costs of not recognising the value of engaged alumni are become clearer all the time
- The key element is achieving mutual benefit



### Internationalisation + alumni engagement = ????

- Examples of successful international AE, but national AE does remain focus
- Interesting that fundraising cultivation of international alumni has often involved very effective alumni engagement
- To ensure strategic impact, activities must add value to internationalisation agenda whilst also positively engaging alumni
- Effective international alumni engagement will also require internal collaboration and possibly step into unknown





### UNIVERSITY<sup>OF</sup> BIRMINGHAM













#### Hello my name is







### **University of Brighton**









### **University of Brighton**



### "

Doing my PhD was an amazing, eyeopening and precious journey of personal and professional growth and development. I am very glad I feel like my journey has not come to an end; it has only just begun.

TON'S DOCTORAL

GRADUATES

**ROUD**TO BE A GRADUATE

PROFESSOR ANGELA WICHMANN SERVICE MANAGEMENT PhD 2015

PROFESSOR, HOCHSCHULE FRESENIUS UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

University of Brighton

# PROUD TO BE A BRIGHTION'S TITANS

Critical thinking, solving complex issues, tapping into new fields, and coping with what feel like insurmountable challenges are attributes I developed during my PhD studies. The University of Brighton taught me to dare and be open to new ways of thinking.

PARTNER, HEAD OF RISK ADVI KPMG LUXEMBOURG



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**PROUD**TO BE A GRADUATE BRIGHTON'S TITANS 44 My time at the University of Brighton really prepared me to conquer the challenges of a fast-changing and dynamic world. CARMEN NIBIGIRA GIONAL COORDINATOR -University of Brighton



### Challenges

- Cultural norms may affect alumni attitudes
- Age range
- Data capture
- How to prioritise? How to expand?
- Balancing autonomy and control
- Realistic budget and staffing
- How to measure impact?



### **Opportunities**

- Relocated national alumni
- Social media
- Working through others
- Senior colleague engagement
- External collaboration
- Parents of current students
- Alumni in residence
- Benchmarking



### How to develop your strategy?

- Process of writing it
- Socialising it
- Getting it on the agenda at high enough level
- Testing?
- Sharing examples of best practice
- How to start?



### Now its your turn! #1

- Think of 3 things you want to achieve through engaging with international alumni
- How do they fit with institutional goals?
- How do they fit with the needs, interests and giving potential of your alumni?
- How to measure results?



### Now its your turn! #2

- How to deliver your 3 objectives? What do they look like?
- What do you need in place?
- Who to collaborate with?
- Who to make the ask to internal collaborators?
- Who to make the ask of your alumni?
- What challenges might you face? How can you counter these?

Each team to present their findings to the wider group!





## **Questions and discussion**



